Capacity expansion and infrastructural development for leather industry

*232. SHR T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether leather industry has presented a plan for support for capacity expansion and infrastructural development for export growth; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH):(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Realizing the strength of leather sector the Government of India had drawn up an ambitious plan for providing impetus to all segments of this industry for the 10th Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs. 400 crore towards implementation of various plan schemes under the "Indian Leather Development Programme" (ILDP). The ILDP comprises of two programmes, *viz.*, "Integrated Development of Leather Sector" (IDLS) and "Infrastructure Strengthening of Leather Sector" (ISLS). IDLS is a comprehensive scheme for modernization and technology upgradation in all the segments of the leather industry. The aim of the ISLS Scheme is to provide infrastructure facilities and capacity building in the leather sector. Government remains committed to support further development of the leather sector in the country, within the available resources during the XI Plan as well.

Communal riots

*233 SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been a number of communal riots in various parts of the country during December, 2006 and January, 2007 and the Centre had deputed a team of experts to make on-the-spot assessment of the situation in those areas;

(b) if so, what were the main points mentioned by the team;

(c) what were the main causes of communal riots; and